HAWAIIANS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Hawaiians. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Hawaii. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Hawaii.

INCOME: HAWAIIANS ARE BARELY EARNING MORE TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Hawaii was \$ 55,282.
- In 2005, the median income in Hawaii was \$ 58,854, a modest increase of 6.5 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN HAWAII CONTINUES TO BE A PROBLEM UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Hawaii had 112,000 adults without insurance (9.5 percent).³
- In 2005, Hawaii had 116,000 adults without insurance (9.1 percent).
- Hawaii had 20,602 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN HAWAII

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Hawaii was \$8,286.⁶ In 2005, it was \$9,131, a 10 percent increase.⁷
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Hawaii was \$15,997.8 In 2005, it was \$17,866, a 12 percent increase.9
- Number of Hawaiians affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction 17.197¹⁰
- Number of Hawaiians affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction 15.386¹¹

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Hawaii was \$1.741 a gallon. 12
- Today the average cost of gas in Hawaii is \$3.141 a gallon.¹³
- In 2001, the average cost of gas for a household in Hawaii was \$2,125. 14
- Today the average cost of gas for a household in Hawaii is \$3,833, \$1,709 (80.4 percent) more than it was in 2001. 15

SOCIAL SECURITY: HAWAIIANS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Hawaii 199,240¹⁶
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Hawaii \$882¹⁷

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: HAWAIIANS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Hawaiians killed in Iraq –11¹⁸
- Number of Hawaiians wounded in Iraq 81¹⁹
- Number of Hawaiians killed in Afghanistan 1²⁰
- Number of Hawaiians wounded in Afghanistan -8^{21}
- Number of Veterans in Hawaii 107.310²²

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING HAWAII'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 58 estates in Hawaii paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²³
- Only 19 estates in Hawaii will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁴

CRIME: VIOLENT CRIME IN HAWAII IS ON THE RISE

- Number of Violent Crimes in Hawaii per 100,000 residents in 2000 243.8²⁵
- Number of Violent Crimes in Hawaii per 100,000 residents in 2005 255.1²⁶

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST HAWAIIANS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Hawaiians.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Hawaii residents each received an average of \$1,661 in tax cuts, while middle class Hawaii residents received only \$437.²⁷
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Hawaii residents will receive an average of \$27,086 in tax cuts, while middle class Hawaii residents will only receive \$827.²⁸
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Hawaii residents will each receive an average of \$55,577 in tax cuts, while middle class Hawaii residents will only receive \$938.²⁹

The richest Hawaiians receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Hawaiians received 4.0 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 21.4 percent of the tax cut.³⁰
- But, in 2006, the richest Hawaiians will get 20.3 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 12.4 percent of the tax cut.³¹
- And, in 2010, the richest Hawaiians will get 38.2 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 12.9 percent of the tax cut.³²

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Hawaiians.

- In 2010, the richest Hawaiians will receive an average of \$9,684 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Hawaiians will be getting over 40.8 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³³
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Hawaiians will receive an average of \$54 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 4.6 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁴

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